

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please enter the following amended claims:

B1 1. **(currently amended)** A pharmaceutical composition having an inhibitory effect on glomerular nephritis, diabetic nephropathy or tissue fibrosis caused by the overproduction and the accumulation of extracellular matrix, said composition comprising as an active ingredient an effective amount of a compound that inhibits the biological activity of galectin-3, which promotes the production of extracellular matrix from an extracellular matrix-producing cell.

2. **(cancelled)**

3. **(previously amended)** The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 1, which exhibits an inhibitory effect on glomerular nephritis, diabetic nephropathy or tissue fibrosis caused by the overproduction and the accumulation of extracellular matrix.

4. **(cancelled)**

5. **(withdrawn)**

B2 6. **(currently amended)** The pharmaceutical composition according to any one of claims 1 to 4 and 3, wherein the compound having an inhibitory effect on the biological activity of galectin-3 is an inhibitor of galectin-3 binding.

7.-10. **(withdrawn)**

B3 11. **(currently amended)** The pharmaceutical composition according to any one of claims 1 to 4 and 3, which is a therapeutic or preventive agent.

12. **(previously amended)** The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 3, wherein the glomerular nephritis, diabetic nephropathy or tissue fibrosis is glomerular nephritis,

diabetic nephropathy or tissue fibrosis, respectively, caused by the abnormal proliferation of mesangium cells.

13.-16. (cancelled)

17. (withdrawn)

18. (cancelled)

19.-22 (withdrawn)

23-24) (cancelled)

B4 25. (currently amended) A method for inhibition of glomerular nephritis, diabetic nephropathy or tissue fibrosis caused by the overproduction and the accumulation of extracellular matrix, said method comprising administering an effective amount of a compound having an inhibitory effect on the biological activity of galectin-3, which promotes the production of extracellular matrix from an extracellular matrix-producing cell, to a subject which needs said inhibition, to thereby inhibit the overproduction and accumulation of extracellular matrix.

26.-28. (cancelled)

29. (withdrawn)

B5 30. (currently amended) The method according to ~~any of claims~~ claim 25 to 28, wherein the compound having an inhibitory effect on the biological activity of galectin-3 is an inhibitor of galectin-3 binding.

31.-34. (withdrawn)

BL 35. (currently amended) The method according to ~~any of claims~~ claim 25 to 28, which is for therapeutic or preventive treatment.

36. (cancelled)